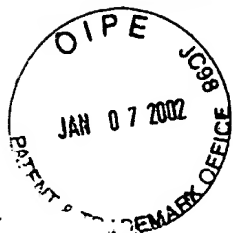


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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Chidane OUCHI
Application No.: 09/986,323
Filed: November 8, 2001
For: EXPOSURE APPARATUS AND
DEVICE MANUFACTURING
METHOD USING THE SAME

Prior Examiner: Unassigned
Prior Group Art Unit: 2881

January 7, 2002

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed PTO-1449 form. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

Japanese patent document 10-163547 corresponds to European patent document 0 820 132.

Japanese patent document 2000-277411 shows the use of a Fizeau-type interferometer.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, no fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c)(2) is believed to be due. Nevertheless, the Commissioner may charge Deposit Account No. 06-1205, should any fee be due for filing this paper.

Applicant requests that the cited information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449 Form be initialed and returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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